

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
28 August 2003 (28.08.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 03/070523 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **B60R 13/02**,  
21/04

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US03/04135

(22) International Filing Date: 11 February 2003 (11.02.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/358,068 19 February 2002 (19.02.2002) US

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(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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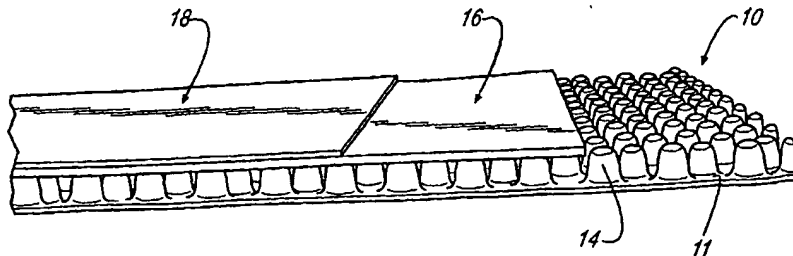
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**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DIMPLED RECYCLABLE SUBSTRATE FOR AN INTERIOR TRIM PANEL



(57) Abstract: An interior trim panel, such as a headliner, formed by a substrate composed of a fibrous or porous batt material, such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET). The substrate includes a first, back side and second, front side. In order to increase the strength of the substrate, dimples or impressions are formed in the back side of the substrate and corresponding projections are formed extending from the opposite front side by simultaneously compressing both sides of the fibrous batt material. A structural layer of material is then attached to the substrate, preferably to the projections of the substrate, resulting in an "I-beam" structure that further enhances the strength of the interior trim panel. In another embodiment, a second layer of fibrous or porous batt material may be placed between the projections before fixedly attaching the structural layer of material to the substrate.